

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method for selling web services based on a quality of service, the method comprising:

receiving, by at least one customer, offering, by offers from a plurality of providers[[,]] for web services based on a quality of service for each of the web services, wherein the customer receives from at least one of the plurality of providers offers for one or more of the web services with multiple combinations of criteria including the quality of service for one or more of the web services;

obtaining, by at least one customer, at least one of the web services having the quality of service for the at least one of the web services from a first of the providers;

using, by the customer, the at least one of the web services through transactions with a proxy in accordance with a configuration, wherein the proxy communicates the transactions between the customer and the first of the providers and records information on the transactions corresponding to the quality of service for the at least one of the web services;

obtaining, by the at least one customer, the at least one of the web services from a second of the providers; and

subsequent to obtaining the at least one of the web services from the second of the providers, using, by the customer, the at least one of the web services through transactions with the proxy in accordance with the configuration, wherein the proxy communicates the transactions between the customer and the second of the

providers instead of communicating the transactions between the customer and the first of the providers.

~~recording information on the transactions corresponding to the quality of service for the at least one of the web services on the proxy.~~

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, wherein a first of the multiple combinations of criteria includes a first price based on a first quality of service of the one or more web services and a second of the multiple combinations of criteria includes a second price based on a second quality of service of the one or more web services.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, wherein at least one web service is offered by one of the providers at an undetermined quality of service.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

~~providing-receiving, by the customer,~~ a license agreement related to the use by the customer of the web service obtained from the provider.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the web services are further defined as based on a Web Services standard.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 18, wherein the web services are further defined as reusable components operable for providing a service via the Internet.

25-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising:

~~enabling paying, by~~ the at least one customer, ~~to pay~~ the first of the providers for the at least one of the web services.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the payment corresponds with the information recorded on the proxy.

34. (Canceled)

35. (New) A method for obtaining web services through a web services marketplace, the method comprising:

    auctioning a web service offered by a first web service provider and a second web service provider;

    obtaining the web service through the first web service provider;

    using the web service through transactions with the first web service provider in accordance with a configuration;

    obtaining the web service through the second web service provider;

    subsequent to obtaining the at least one of the web services from the second of the providers, using the web service through transactions with the second web service provider in accordance with the configuration instead of through transactions with the first web service provider.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the first web service provider offers the web service with a first set of criteria including a quality of service for the web service and the second web service provider offers the web service with a second set of criteria including a quality of service for the web service.

37. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein using the web service through transactions with the first web service provider or the second web service provider comprises communicating the transactions through a proxy in accordance with the configuration.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein using the web service through transactions with the first web service provider comprises communicating the transactions with the proxy in accordance with the configuration, wherein the proxy communicates the transactions with the first web service provider.

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein using the web service through transactions with the second web service provider comprises communicating the transactions with the proxy in accordance with the configuration, wherein the proxy communicates the transactions with the second web service provider.

40. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein obtaining the web service through the first web service provider or the second service provider comprises receiving a name for the web service, and wherein using the web service through transactions with the first web service provider or the second web service provider in accordance with the configuration comprises directing the transactions to an internet protocol address associated with the name.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein when using the web service through transactions with the first web service provider, the internet protocol address associated with the name is an internet protocol address of the first web service provider.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein when using the web service through transactions with the second web service provider, the internet protocol address associated with the name is an internet protocol address of the second web service provider.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein obtaining the web service through the second web service provider comprises updating the internet protocol address associated with the name to be the internet protocol address of the second web service provider.

44. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the configuration is a configuration of a web server.

45. (New) A web services marketplace, comprising:

an offering component configured to identify offerings of a web service provided by a plurality of web services providers;

a customer computer in communication with the offering component to obtain the web service from one of the web service providers in accordance with one of the offerings; and

a proxy configured to receive requests from the customer computer and pass the requests to the one of the web service providers and further configured to receive replies from the one of the web service providers and pass the replies to the customer computer,

wherein the customer computer uses the web service with the one of the web service providers by sending the requests and receiving the replies with the proxy in accordance with a configuration,

wherein upon the customer computer obtaining the web service from another of the web service providers, the proxy is reconfigured to pass the requests to the other of the web service providers and receive replies from the other of the web service providers, and

wherein the customer computer uses the web service with the other of the web service providers by sending the requests and receiving the replies with the proxy in accordance with the configuration.

46. (New) The web services marketplace of claim 45, wherein each of the plurality of web services providers provides a different offering for the web service.

47. (New) The web services marketplace of claim 45, wherein one of the plurality of web services providers simultaneously provides multiple different offerings for the web service.

48. (New) The web services marketplace of claim 45, wherein each of the offerings includes one or more criteria selected from the group comprising price, quality of service, and quantity.

49. (New) The web services marketplace of claim 45, wherein the proxy records information on the requests and the replies passing through the proxy to use the web service.

50. (New) The web services marketplace of claim 49, further comprising:

a financial component configured to provide compensation to the one of the web service providers or the other of the web service providers based on the information recorded on the proxy.